GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1525
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2000
WHITE PAPER ON ARTICLE 356
P.R. KHUTE

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether suggestions have been received by the Government about holding a general discussion in the Parliament on Article 356 and issuance of a white paper thereon;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto stating latest position in the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (I.D. SWAMI)

(a) to (c): Article 356 has been the subject matter of discussion in the meetings of the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council. In the sixth meeting of the Standing Committee, the subject was remitted to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh and Finance Minister of West Bengal under the convenorship of the Union Defence Minister.The matter was also discussed in the fifth meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 22nd January, 1999 in which it was decided that the Subcommittee under the convenorship of the Union Defence Minister should continue deliberations to evolve a consensus.

The Sub-Committee under the convenorship of the Union Defence Minister has been reconstituted, in April 2000, with the Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and Finance Minister of West Bengal as members.